1: Ingrams G-5 (1934-35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

Justice.

In Mukalla there are three courts. (1) The Sharia court, which is presided over by three Qadhis. It has also an appellate jurisdiction from other Qadhis in the country. They try all cases according to Sharia law and certain criminal cases are therefore excepted from their jurisdiction, as mutilation and some other Quranic penalties have been abolished. (2) The Hakm as Suq, which is presided over by a police magistrate who is also in charge of the slave police. He tries small cases and can imprison up to twelve days. These sentences are served in the court building which is also the station of the slave police. (3) The Hakm ad Dola, the *Wazir's* court. Here are heard important criminal cases, important civil cases, bankruptcy cases, and cases in which there is not sufficient evidence for the Sharia court.

There is no commercial court, but if a merchant goes bankrupt his creditors among the merchants gather together to arrange a settlement. In important civil cases the *Wazir* selects a committee of merchants as assessors who examine the cases and report to him. There are no pleaders before the courts. Provincial governors have jurisdiction to settle all cases in their *liwas* but there is an appeal to Mukalla. There are Qadhis at the bigger towns of the interior such as Shibam.

Police.

Organization.

In Mukalla the total strength of the uniformed police is 60; that of the plain clothes slave police is 33. The uniform consists of a dark blue tunic and shorts with a leather belt bearing a brass buckle in front, and a red fez. They are equipped with rifles, but only the actual sentry outside a station carries one. The slave police wear a police belt over their ordinary clothes and carry daggers. There is a Jemadar, one Havildar, one Corporal, and two Lance-Corporals. The headquarters of the uniformed police are at the Customs end of the bazaar. There are several other small police-stations in the town.

Distribution.

In Mukalla 30 uniformed police are on duty by day and 10 at night, these latter being reinforced by 20 plain clothes slave police. The uniformed police man the Customs where a detachment is on duty for seven days, each man being relieved every 24 hours. Thirteen of the slave police are on duty at the station of the Hakm as Suq. The peculiar function of the slave police is to deal with armed offenders. Otherwise both bodies of police appear to have the usual functions. There are a few police in Shihr but none in the interior.

Crime.

From information obtained it would appear that murder cases are now practically non-existent. Murderers are executed with a dagger plunged into the supra sternal notch.